

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A handheld device for rapidly and easily inputting text, comprising:

a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed anywhere on said handheld device except over said display, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure on said touch pad will input textual information upon said display, and further comprising means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold further comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds.

Claim 2 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said device further comprises means for indicating finger positions on said touch pad.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A handheld device for rapidly and easily inputting text, comprising:

a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed adjacent said display that simulates a keyboard, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure on said touch pad will input textual information upon said display, and further comprising means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises a keyboard for placement of fingers.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said

touch pad comprises a standard keyboard configuration.

Claim 6 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises a multiplicity of finger sensitive pressure zones.

Claim 7 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad is positioned behind said display.

Claim 8 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said display comprises an LCD screen.

Claim 9 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said display comprises means for displaying text in a word processing format.

Claim 10 (original): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises means for adjusting finger pressure necessary for activating said keyboard and inputting text.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A handheld portable electronic device for inputting text in a relatively rapid manner, comprising: a display for showing the input of text, comprising: a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed anywhere on said handheld device except over said display, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure inputs finger positions and textual information upon said display, and further comprising means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds.

12-13. (canceled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises a keyboard for placement of fingers.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11 wherein said touch pad comprises a standard keyboard configuration.

Claim 16 (original): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises a multiplicity of finger sensitive pressure pads.

Claim 17 (original): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad is positioned behind said display.

Claim 18 (original): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said display comprises an LCD screen.

Claim 19 (original): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said display comprises means for displaying text in a word processing format.

Claim 20 (original): The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises means for adjusting finger pressure necessary for activating said touch pad and inputting text.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises ~~means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds~~ a slider bar.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of three discrete pressure thresholds.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein below a second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will not be displayed upon said display, wherein above the second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will be displayed upon said display, and wherein said second pressure threshold exceeds said first pressure threshold.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The handheld device in accordance with claim 3, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises ~~means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds~~ a slider bar.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 3, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of three discrete pressure thresholds.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 3, wherein below a second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will not be displayed upon said display, wherein above the second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will be displayed upon said display, and wherein said second pressure threshold exceeds said first pressure threshold.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The handheld device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises ~~means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of discrete pressure thresholds~~ a slider bar.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said means for adjusting the first pressure threshold of said touch pad comprises means for selecting the first pressure threshold from a predetermined set of three discrete pressure thresholds.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The handheld device in accordance with claim 11, wherein

below a second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will not be displayed upon said display, wherein above the second pressure threshold of said touch pad said textual information will be displayed upon said display, and wherein said second pressure threshold exceeds said first pressure threshold.